

UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement

Dedicated thematic streams of work

I. Introduction

1. The United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement (hereafter "the Panel") has been tasked to elaborate bold and practical recommendations on how to better respond to internal displacement, in particular where it is protracted, and achieve government-led durable solutions with attention to the five following areas:

- 1) Strengthening capacities of Member States, the UN system and other relevant stakeholders to ensure adequate protection and assistance for internally displaced persons, to prevent such displacement and reduce it in view of achieving durable solutions, in a manner that is in line with international law and standards, and as reflected in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and other relevant frameworks;
- 2) Advancing collaboration between humanitarian, development, and where appropriate climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and peace actors, to better support affected Member States in addressing and reducing internal displacement and facilitating the exchange of lessons and good practices among affected states and other relevant actors;
- 3) Advancing the participation and inclusion of IDPs and displacement-affected communities in the realization of the 2030 Agenda, and in doing so being conscious of the specific needs of those who may be particularly vulnerable, including women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities;
- 4) Improving the collection, analysis and use of quality data relevant to internal displacement taking into account gender considerations and age-sensitive approaches;
- 5) Innovative financing and funding mechanisms and strategies in support of addressing internal displacement.

2. In order to operationalize these terms of reference, the Panel has developed six dedicated "thematic workstreams" focusing on (i) generating political will, capacity, responsibility and accountability (Area 1 of the ToRs); (ii) prevention (Area 1 of the ToRs); (iii) improving the international system's ability to facilitate solutions, including through the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus, as well as enhanced coherence with climate and disaster displacement actors (Area 2 of the ToRs); (iv) establishing innovative financing mechanisms (Area 5 of the ToRs); (v) leveraging the role of the private sector at both the global and local levels (Area 5 of the ToRs); and (vi) improving the collection and analysis of credible data and evidence (Area 4 of the ToRs).

3. In addition, an overarching theme of the Panel's work will be the centrality of protection that puts people at the center through a gender, age and disability-sensitive lens and promotes the meaningful participation and inclusion of IDPs and other displacement-affected communities in a whole-of-society context (Area 3 of the ToRs).

4. Further, the objective of raising international attention and visibility to the issue of internal displacement and its impact will be considered throughout. The Panel will also consider the actual impact of COVID-19 on IDPs/host communities and the implications going forward, as well as to what extent the COVID-19 ordeal is instructive in regard to specific aspects of the internal displacement problematic.

5. This document outlines the six dedicated workstreams, the key issues to be pursued in each of the workstreams and the methodology to be applied. Organizing the Panel's work by workstream allows to 1) define the main problem in this area and the potential added value of Panel's recommendations in that regard; and 2) define the research and partnerships necessary to inform the Panel's recommendations to solve this problem, including by pointing to existing good practices which could be replicated or scaled up. While some elements of various workstreams may overlap, there are core themes that underpin each of them. Each workstream will consider both conflict/violence-induced displacement and climate change and disaster-induced displacement.

6. Each workstream will bring together a range of actors, including interested States, International and Regional Organizations, I/NGO partners, and other specialists and researchers for focused discussions coordinated by the Secretariat and its partners. One or two Panel Members, supported by one or several Expert Advisory Group (EAG) members, would act as dedicated "Champion(s)" for the respective workstreams. Synthesis documents will be prepared for each workstream by the Panel's Secretariat in some cases together with academic institutions. Each workstream will also benefit significantly from consultations with IDPs and displacement-affected communities themselves, as well as the papers submitted by Governments, UN agencies, NGOs and academic institutions on specific questions (as per the call for submissions).

7. Supported by the Secretariat and the accompanying EAG member(s), the role of the Panel "Champion" will entail representing the Panel on this issue by focusing on the workstream in question, providing motivation and guidance for the work of that stream, participating critically in its meetings, discussions and activities and later introducing and presenting the outcomes of the stream's efforts before the Panel.

8. The discussions of each workstream would result in threshold analysis, information and conclusions/recommendations which would be presented to the Panel to consider together in full quorum and featured in the Panel's final report (either in the introduction or in the recommendations part).

II. Workstream #1: Generating political will, capacity, responsibility and accountability

Panel Member Champions: Federica Mogherini and Nasser Judeh
EAG Focal Points: Alexandra Bilak, Chaloka Beyani and Walter Kaelin

(a). Objectives and outcomes

9. A key challenge to solve internal displacement is that Governments are in many cases unable or even unwilling to respond to internal displacement in their country and/or to prioritize

durable solutions. This workstream will look at the trigger point(s) that incentivize acknowledgement and prioritization by States of internal displacement action and make recommendations accordingly.

10. As a result, the workstream will review the different models for how States affected by internal displacement have responded to this challenge, the factors leading Governments to take and exercise responsibility and accountability on internal displacement at both the national and local levels and gauge the critical Government institutional capacities and mechanisms which need to be in place, in particular to enable durable solutions. To this end, the workstream will primarily explore the following questions:

- To what extent have specific institutions, laws and policies that are promulgated for IDP protection, assistance and durable solutions contributed to enhancing Governments' responsibilities and accountability on internal displacement?
- How can governments be incentivized to include IDPs in national development plans so as to promote a solutions-oriented approach?
- To what extent are IDPs included in the national and local plans to contain the spread of COVID-19, including to ensure their access to health care?
- How can the SDGs be used as national indicators on progress toward addressing internal displacement, including for most vulnerable?
- What can we learn from other fields, such as public health (e.g. how was political will garnered to establish The Global Fund)?
- What kind of 'capacity support' has proven most effective for governments to facilitate solutions to displacement at the national and local levels, and promoting the agency of IDPs and host communities in decision making?
- What are the forums/spaces that are currently used regionally and internationally to facilitate peer-to-peer learning and mobilization on sensitive topics like internal displacement (e.g. South-South cooperation initiatives, G77 platforms, RECs, etc.) that could be leveraged as trusted spaces for discussion and action?

(b). Collaboration and modalities

11. The Secretariat, in collaboration with EAG members and relevant researchers, will develop a study of the cases where governments have transitioned toward promoting a solutions-oriented approach, as well as an analysis of sensitive issues by country/theme. Along with a comparative analysis of normative frameworks for solutions that EAG member Chaloka Beyani has offered to prepare, the two papers would form the key working documents for this stream of work.

12. As for the process of dialogue and consultations of this workstream:

- i. It is envisaged to collaborate with and capitalize on GP20's Regional meeting which may take place later in 2020 in Panama City. (TBC).
- ii. To explore the issues in Regional discussions in Africa (with AU/IGAD/ECOWAS/ICGLR, online and through regional consultation in November 2020), Latin America, Asia and Europe on States' perspectives on political will, state capacity and solutions, as well as forums that could serve as platforms for peer-to-peer engagement on addressing internal displacement.

- iii. A high-level event on internal displacement in the context of the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment that may involve a member of the Panel and/or Secretariat is envisaged on 10 June 2020 in New York.
- iv. Other discussions, events or research with selected Member States, regional organizations, GP20, UN organizations, the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs, specific academic institutions, NGOs and others (including experts that have been involved in political negotiations to better understand common motivations/levers for change) will also be explored.

III. Workstream #2: Prevention – Preventing internal displacement in the context of conflict and disasters/climate change

Panel Member Champions: Sima Samar and Pauline Riak
 EAG Member: Chaloka Beyani

(a). Objectives and outcomes

- 13. The objectives of this workstream include:
 - i. To examine the risks of displacement including in contexts of fragility, the causes and factors leading to displacement whether in the context of conflict/violence and climate change/disaster including, in the case of conflicts and violence, the direct and indirect impact of conflict themselves, and IHL and IHRL violations leading to internal displacement.
 - ii. In light of its overview and analysis, the workstream will then make recommendations on the key actions to prevent, mitigate and turn around the tide of internal displacement around the world including in particular:
 - Practices and experiences of States, local authorities and other duty bearers, including non-state armed groups in preventing conflict- and violence-induced displacement, notably in regard to respecting their IHL/IHRL obligations and accountability.
 - Good practices from all relevant stakeholders to support States and contribute to national disaster risk reduction and preparedness.
 - Ways in which local communities can protect themselves from displacement and other effects of conflict, but also ways in which they can better prepare for the eventuality of displacement, including when carried out as a coping mechanism, and be supported to do so, using a gender, age and disability-sensitive lens.
 - How the resilience of populations to disaster-related drivers and the impact of climate change can be strengthened in specific contexts (incl. rural and urban) including where this occurs amidst armed conflict or widespread violence, using a gender, age and disability-sensitive lens.
 - Innovations on displacement forecasting and upstream interventions - including anticipatory financing - to help communities better prepare for disasters and reduce the risk of displacement along the way.

- Intersections between systems designed for prevention of conflict/violence- and disaster-induced displacement.

(b). Collaboration and modalities.

14. The Secretariat, in collaboration with EAG members and relevant researchers, will synthesize the findings of specific consultations/dialogues envisaged on this theme, as well as relevant points of submissions to the Panel from various stakeholders.
15. A process of dialogue and consultations of this workstream is envisaged:
- With ICRC/IFRC on the prevention of displacement and incentivizing political will (three online meetings, June/July 2020)
 - With PDD/GP20 with regard to its “Bangkok Consultations” now planned for autumn 2020 on good practices of States to deal with disasters and climate change, including prevention (TBC).
 - With the earlier mentioned regional consultations with regional organizations and States in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe to explore States’ perspectives on preventing forced displacement.
 - With development actors, e.g., the World Bank, UNDP, some UN Resident Coordinators as entry points to the prevention integrated approach on prevention (online discussions, TBC).
 - Other discussions, events or research with selected Member States, regional organizations, GP20, UN organizations, the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs, specific academic institutions and think-tanks, NGOs and others will also be explored.

IV. Workstream #3: Improve the international system’s ability to facilitate solutions, including through the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus, as well as enhanced coherence with climate and disaster displacement actors

Panel Member Champions: Paula Gaviria and Mitiku Kassa
EAG Focal Points: Walter Kaelin and Beth Ferris

(a). Objectives and outcomes

16. This workstream will focus on what has worked or not worked to enable solutions to internal displacement, with particular attention to the role of international actors in facilitating government-led efforts. The over-arching issues of responsibility, capacity and accountability will be explored as well under this theme. Recommendations would be formulated on how the different elements of the system at both national and international levels can be made to work better together.
17. The workstream will:
- Explore what needs to be done to unlock situations of protracted displacement and to overcome obstacles to solutions whether in regard to the need for security, housing,

services, livelihoods, social safety nets, effective education, social cohesion solutions and housing/land and property issues, etc. Also, explore responses to displacement that can help IDPs avoid becoming locked in protracted situations in the first place.

- Examine how all relevant actors can work more coherently toward facilitating solutions, with particular emphasis on the meaningful participation of IDPs and displacement-affected communities in all aspects of the effort. Look at the benefits and challenges of pursuing an overall strategic approach that integrates the humanitarian, development and peacebuilding and/or DRR/climate change dimensions? In which cases has this worked and not worked in facilitating solutions? Why?
- Regarding the complementary role of international partners, review the gap in accountability for solutions among UN actors. Reflect on leveraging the role of the RC/HCs, and how the relationship between agencies and officials with humanitarian, development and peacebuilding or disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation responsibilities can be improved and optimized.
- Highlight the ways in which displaced and impacted populations can be included in the diagnostic and strategy development work of national, humanitarian and development actors to ensure that they have a central role in shaping the response to their needs and to end displacement, using a gender, age and disability-sensitive lens.
- The extent to which IDPs were included in the joint or complementary responses to COVID-19 of relevant humanitarian and development actors will be highlighted as well.

(b). Collaboration and modalities

18. As specifically requested by the Panel, the Secretariat will produce an analysis of what has been tried in the past on solutions and how the system can work better together/how more cooperation can be triggered, with complementary input of the Expert Advisory Group. EAG member Beth Ferris will provide a paper on the concept of durable solutions. The Secretariat, in collaboration with EAG members and relevant researchers, will also synthesize the findings of specific consultations/dialogues envisaged on this theme, as well as relevant points of submissions to the Panel from various stakeholders.

19. For the dialogue and consultations processes:

- i. A possible collaboration with the European Union for roundtable on the triple nexus – from policy to practice, joint planning, programming and financing for durable solutions (September 2020, Brussels, TBC).
- ii. A consultation of the GP20 Steering Committee on the triple nexus in Geneva in September 2020 would be capitalized on (TBC)
- iii. A Regional meeting of the Panel in Addis Ababa planned to take place in November 2020 would provide a platform for dedicated discussions on solutions and incentives (TBC)
- iv. Other specific collaborations may be envisaged with selected Governments, RC/HCs and HCT/UNCTs, UN agencies, INGOs and regional NGO Solutions Networks and think tanks.

V. **Workstream #4: Promoting innovative financing opportunities**

Panel Member Champion: Donald Kaberuka
EAG Focal Point: Walter Kaelin

(a). **Objectives and outcomes**

20. This workstream will explore the specific issue of the right financial incentives for investing in solutions to internal displacement – whether by governments faced with displacement situations, humanitarian actors, development actors, or Member States, including signatories of the UN framework convention on climate change. It will:

- Review and critique current models, designs and approaches of financial strategies, planning, programming, resource mobilization and donorship and highlight ingrained factors that work against the most optimal modelling and delivery.
- Identify and promote the design of financing instruments that provide adequate incentives to governments impacted by internal displacement to use a whole-of-government approach and strengthen the capacities of sub-national and local authorities as frontline responders.
- Identify and promote the design of financing instruments that provide adequate incentives for the UN system to support the longer-term resilience and well-being of displaced communities from the outset (including through support for collective outcomes), rather than just short-term, project-based humanitarian assistance.
- Consider ways that innovative financing mechanisms can be identified, catalyzed and utilized to demonstrate international solidarity including the idea of an international fund for disaster displacement or a special window on durable solutions of the Peacebuilding Fund.
- Examine the role of IFIs in addressing situations for IDPs and host communities alike in protracted displacement situations in cities.
- Identify how IFIs can help promote regional and global approaches and provide financial resources to support the adoption of effective policies and the implementation of priority investments for the self-reliance/resilience of IDPs/host communities and contribute to solutions.
- Explore the use of Faith-based financing (such as Islamic Social Financing) to complement resources of governments to better respond to IDP situations.

(b). **Collaboration and modalities**

21. A paper on the political economy analysis on the (right or wrong) incentives set by the present financing systems at international as well as national levels to address internal displacement may be solicited. This would include how to use blended finance, i.e. the strategic use of development finance and philanthropic funds to mobilize private capital flows to countries dealing with internal displacement. The Secretariat, in collaboration with EAG members and relevant researchers, will also synthesize the findings of specific consultations/dialogues envisaged on this theme, as well as relevant points of submissions to the Panel from various stakeholders.

22. A process of dialogue and consultations of this workstream is envisaged:
- i. A roundtable would be organized in partnership with the World Bank to bring together regional development banks, Government donors and impacted Governments. (TBC).
 - ii. Other conversations with a focus on a region, sub-themes or other specific construct may also be foreseen, including based on potential partnerships, e.g. with the Center for Global Development.

VI. Workstream #5: Private sector engagement

Panel Member Champion: Per Heggenes
EAG Focal Point: Walter Kaelin

(a). Objectives and outcomes

23. This workstream is dedicated to the objective of engaging the private sector in internal displacement, in particular to i) provide donations; (ii) help in the delivery of humanitarian assistance (e.g. cash transfers); (iii) act as service providers (eg private clinics and schools) in situations where even before the disaster governmental services were notoriously weak or absent; (iv) be a key actor in creating livelihoods; and (v) join public-private partnerships in areas such as housing and livelihoods- including through the involvement of IFIs to facilitate de-risking.

24. The Panel will consider:

- What and who constitutes the private sector in the context of internal displacement.
- The areas of engagement in which the private sector can bring value, such as relating to opportunities for providing expertise and technical support, in addition to financial contributions.
- How private sector engagement can be facilitated accordingly, namely by identifying the necessary incentives (and proper safeguards) for private companies and governments impacted by internal displacement to work together to generate economic opportunities for communities in displacement situations.
- How risks for companies at the global and local level to invest in locations affected by displacement can be mitigated.

(b). Collaboration and modalities

25. This workstream will draw crucially on the pioneering engagement of the private sector in refugee situations. The Secretariat will prepare a summary of this experience and lessons learned for internal displacement situations, potentially together with partners. The Secretariat, in collaboration with EAG members and relevant researchers, will also synthesize the findings of specific consultations/dialogues envisaged on this theme, as well as relevant points of submissions to the Panel from various stakeholders.

26. A process of dialogue and consultations of this workstream is envisaged:
- i. Specific engagement with domestic business actors in countries where the Panel's country visits will be conducted, as well as dialogue with international businesses and private foundations at the global level.
 - ii. A roundtable would be organized in partnership with relevant IFIs, UN agencies and NGOs on the engagement of the private sector at global, regional and local level in areas impacted by internal displacement (TBC).
 - iii. Other conversations with a focus on a region, sub-themes or specific private sector actors may also be foreseen, including based on potential partnerships.

VII. Workstream #6: Data and Evidence

Panel Member Champion: Nasser Judeh and Per Heggenes
EAG Focal Points: Alexandra Bilak and Beth Ferris

(a). Objectives and outcomes

27. This workstream will focus on the type of data and evidence that Member States need in order to take full ownership of the challenge of internal displacement, and to start demonstrating progress in reducing it in line with national priorities and agendas.

28. A crucial point in reference to the national context will be the inclusion in and coverage of internally displaced persons and affected communities in national statistical and data systems and processes. This workstream will also look at evidence and data at the international level, in particular as it concerns enhanced collaboration and complementarity between humanitarian, development, and peace actors.

29. The Panel will in particular:

- Outline the principles and standards to ensure the availability of core, quality and sufficient evidence/data supporting better accounting and increased accountability by States on the issue of internal displacement. This will look across the cycle of internal displacement, from the risks and causes of internal displacement they may face through to preparedness, response and solutions.
- Illuminate the challenges and obstacles which lead to the dearth, poor quality, opaqueness or manipulation of internal displacement data. Look at the issue of internally displaced persons and impacted communities being left out of national data systems and processes.
- Highlight the keystones for imbedding internal displacement in national statistical and data systems and processes and the use of that data to articulate and secure IDP and impacted community issues, needs and objectives in national planning, delivery and accounting for results and their participation in decisions affecting them.
- Look at the corollary aspects of IDP evidence and data at the international level including how international partners can get access to more complete and accurate end-

to-end data on internal displacement including socio-economic profiles of displacement-affected populations.

- Look at the data and evidence accessible on the impact of the COVID-19 epidemic on IDPs, but also on how the well-being of IDPs is impacted by government measures to limit and slow the spread of the virus.
- Take stock of the links between internal/cross-border/wider displacement.

(b). Collaboration and modalities

30. This workstream will draw from existing and on-going related work and initiatives, in particular the recommendations on IDPs developed by the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics (EGRIS) that have been endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission and other relevant structures/systems at country level which provide data and have analytical capacities and could be strengthened. EAG Member Alexandra Bilak will provide a paper on the strategic use of evidence and data. The Secretariat, in collaboration with EAG members and relevant researchers, will also synthesize the findings of specific consultations/dialogues envisaged on this theme, as well as relevant points of submissions to the Panel from various stakeholders.

31. A process of dialogue and consultations of this workstream is envisaged:

- i. Partnership with IDMC (GRID Launch, 28 April 2020, potential meeting on data and evidence on internal displacement, Copenhagen, TBC, Academic Conference, October 2020).
- ii. EGRIS/JIPS Meeting on forced displacement, Geneva, October/November, TBC (scope for Secretariat presentation)
- iii. IOM and partners data meeting (TBC)
- iv. Specific event by the Panel's Secretariat to overview in a coherent overarching manner the priority issues at stake on evidence and data in the internal displacement context (TBC).

Secretariat / Geneva / 09.05.2020